

examining the metadata to determine first metadata items that conform to one of a predetermined number of known metadata standards and converting each of the first metadata items to an interpretable form used in the browsing system; and

examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items that do not conform to any of the known metadata standards and, for each of the remaining metadata items:

(i) assessing a syntax of that item to classify that item to one of a set of types known to the browsing system, and

(ii) converting that item according to a known metadata standard to the interpretable form.

A1

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the set of types known to the browsing system includes a type that classifies an item as being a table of contents item.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the set of types known to the browsing system includes a type that classifies an item as an index item.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the interpretable form comprises attributes used by the multimedia browsing system for visual representation of the description.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the description is expressed in XML.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said receiving step comprises parsing the description.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein, for substeps (i) and (ii), an href attribute is construed to be a link and represented as an xlink:href attribute, and wherein, if a target value of the link is a URI with one of an extension of XML and no extension, then the link is interpreted to be a link to another description, otherwise the link is interpreted to be a link to content corresponding to the description.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein, for substeps (i) and (ii), an element is classified as a table of contents item if at least one of the elements and a corresponding child thereof includes a link.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the link is represented using an element, with a context of the element including a link target.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the link is represented using an attribute, and a value of the attribute includes a link target.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein an element not classified as a table of contents item is interpreted to be an index item.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

and

(b) if a name attribute exists,

then a text identifier is created from the name attribute of that item.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

and

(b) if a name attribute does not exist,

then a text identifier is created from a name of the element.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

(b) if a name attribute exists; and

(c) if the name attribute is one of a class of attributes that can act as a visual identifier,
then a visual identifier is created from a name of the element.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein the visual identifier is formed by checking the name attribute against a list of possible visual identifier names.

A₁ 16. (Amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein the name attribute relates to at least one of a key frame, a thumbnail, and a movie preview.

17. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein conversion is performed using an XSLT stylesheet.

18. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon, where the program is configured to make a computer execute a procedure to interpret metadata in a multimedia browsing system, the program comprising:
code for receiving a description of an item of multimedia content;
code for reviewing the description to identify metadata associated therewith;

code for examining the metadata to determine first metadata items that conform to one of a predetermined number of known metadata standards and converting each of the first metadata items to an interpretable form used in the browsing system; and
code for examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items that do not conform to any of the known metadata standards and, for each of the remaining metadata items:

- (i) assessing a syntax of that item to classify that item to one of a set of types known to the browsing system, and
- (ii) converting that item according to a known metadata standard to the interpretable form.

A,

19. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 18, wherein the set of types known to the browsing system includes a type that classifies an item as being a table of contents item.

20. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 18, wherein the set of types known to the browsing system includes a type that classifies an item as an index item.

21. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 18, wherein the interpretable form comprises attributes used by the multimedia browsing system for visual representation of the description.

22. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 21, wherein the description is expressed in XML.

23. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the code for receiving comprises code for parsing the description.

A.

24. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the code for examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items is operable to construe an href attribute to be a link and represent the href attribute as an xlink:href attribute, and

wherein, if a target value of the link is a URI with one of an extension of XML and no extension, then the link is interpreted to be a link to another description, otherwise the link is interpreted to be a link to content corresponding to the description.

25. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the code for examining, the metadata to determine remaining metadata items is

operable to classify an element as a table of contents item if at least one of the elements and any corresponding child thereof includes a link.

26. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 25, wherein, the link is represented using an element, with a content of the element including a link target.

A, 27. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the link is represented using an attribute, and a value of the attribute includes a link target.

28. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 25, wherein an element not classified as a table of contents item is interpreted to be an index item.

29. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the code for examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items is operable such that:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

and

(b) if a name attribute exists,

then a text identifier is created from the name attribute of that item.

30. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the code for examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items is operable such that:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

and

(b) if a name attribute does not exist,

then a text identifier is created from a name of the element.

A₁

31. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the code for examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items is operable such that:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

(b) if a name attribute exists; and

(c) if the name attribute is one of a class of attributes that can act as a visual

identifier,

then a visual identifier is created from a name of the element.

32. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 31, wherein the visual identifier is formed by checking the name attribute against a list of possible visual identifier names.

33. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 31, wherein the name attribute relates to at least one of a key frame, a thumbnail, and a movie preview.

A₁ 34. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 22, wherein conversion is performed using an XSLT stylesheet.

35. (Amended) Computer apparatus for interpreting metadata in a multimedia browsing system, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a description of an item of multimedia content;

means for reviewing the description to identify metadata associated

therewith;

first means for examining the metadata to determine first metadata items

that conform to one of a predetermined number of known metadata standards and

converting each of the first metadata items to an interpretable form used in the browsing

system; and

second means for examining the metadata to determine remaining metadata items that do not conform to any of the known metadata standards and, for each of the remaining metadata items:

- (i) assessing a syntax of that item to classify that item to one of a set of types known to the browsing system, and
- (ii) converting that item according to a known metadata standard to the interpretable form.

A 36. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the set of types known to the browsing system includes a type that classifies an item as being a table of contents item.

37. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the set of types known to the browsing system includes a type that classifies an item as an index item.

38. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the interpretable form comprises attributes used by the multimedia browsing system for visual representation of the description.

39. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the description is expressed in XML.

40. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 39, wherein said means for receiving comprises means for parsing the description.

41. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 39,
wherein said second means for examining is operable to construe an href attribute to be a link and represent the href attribute as an xlink:href attribute,
and

wherein, if a target value of the link is a URI with one of an extension of XML and no extension, then the link is interpreted to be a link to another description, otherwise the link is interpreted to be a link to content corresponding to the description.

42. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 38, wherein said second means for examining is operable to classify an element as a table of contents item if at least one of the elements and a corresponding child thereof includes a link.

43. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the link is represented using an element, with a content of the element including a link target.

44. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the link is represented using an attribute, and a value of the attribute includes the link target.

45. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 42, wherein an element not classified as a table of contents item is interpreted to be an index item.

46. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said second means for examining is operable such that:

(a) if an item does not include either a visual identifier or a text identifier;

A₁
and

(b) if a name attribute exists,

then a text identifier is created from the name attribute of that item.

47. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said second means for examining is operable such that:

(a) if an item does not have either a visual identifier or a text identifier; and

(b) if a name attribute does not exist,

then a text identifier is created from a name of the element.

48. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said second means for examining is operable such that:

(a) if an item does not have either a visual identifier or a text identifier;
(b) if a name attribute exists; and
(c) if the name attribute is one of a class of attributes that can act as a visual identifier,
then a visual identifier is created from a name of the element.

A, 49. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 48, wherein the visual identifier is formed by checking the name attribute against a list of possible visual identifier names.

50. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 48, wherein the name attribute relates to at least one of a key frame, a thumbnail, and a movie preview.

51. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 39, wherein conversion is performed using an XSLT stylesheet.

52. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the multimedia browsing system is implemented at least in part by said computer apparatus.

53. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 52, wherein said computer apparatus is formed of a server to which individual users of the multimedia browsing system connect.

A₁
54. (Amended) A method of maintaining a personal information landscape for a World Wide Web user, where the personal information landscape comprises a set of at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity of a plurality of metadata entities, the plurality of metadata entities each including at least one link to another metadata entity and a content entity, said method comprising the steps of:

(i) representing and storing an entity target of the at least one link as a universal resource identifier (URI);

(ii) representing the at least one link as an interface from which a user can navigate through the personal information landscape, using the at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity, and select to reproduce content using the at least one link to a content entity; and

(iii) enabling the user to modify the personal information landscape by adding new links to a metadata entity and by deleting or modifying an existing link to a metadata entity, wherein modifications are stored with the user's personal information landscape.

55. (Amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein reproduction of content comprises at least one of playing and viewing the content.

56. (Amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein substep (i) further comprises representing and storing the entity target with a component identifier, wherein the component identifier is used to identify a component of an entity addressed by the URI.

57. (Amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein the content entity comprises an item of digital signal content.

58. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the item of digital signal content comprises a digital image item.

59. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the item of digital signal content comprises a digital video item.

60. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the item of digital signal content comprises a digital audio item.

61. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the content entity comprises an item of electronic text.

62. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the content entity comprises an item of electronic hypertext.

63. (Amended) A method according to claim 57, wherein the content entity comprises an item of non-electronically-accessible content, in which case the content entity cannot be viewed or played.

64. (Amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein the plurality of metadata entities are XML documents.

65. (Amended) A method according to claim 56, wherein the component identifier identifies a node of an XML element tree.

66. (Amended) A method according to claim 56, wherein the component identifier comprises an XPointer.

67. (Amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein the interface is implemented using a web browsing application.

68. (Amended) A method according to claim 67, wherein functionality used to play or view the content is provided by plug-ins for the web browsing application.

69. (Amended) A method according to claim 67 wherein the web browsing application comprises a generic application.

70. (Amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein functionality used to play or view the content is provided by a plug-in specifically designed for the interface.

A1

71. (Amended) A method of maintaining a personal information landscape for a World Wide Web user, where the personal information landscape comprises a set of at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity of a plurality of metadata entities, the plurality of metadata entities being comprised of at least one link to another metadata entity or to a content entity, said method comprising the steps of:

(i) representing and storing an entity target of the at least one link as a universal resource identifier (URI);

(ii) representing the at least one link as an interface from which a user can navigate through the personal information landscape, using the at least one link to the corresponding metadata entity, and select to reproduce content using the at least one link to a content entity;

(iii) enabling the user to search for particular entities by specifying desired properties for the particular entities and then performing a matching operation on the desired properties with properties of entities in one or more metadata entities corresponding to the at least one link;

(iv) enabling the user to modify the personal information landscape by at least one of adding new links to metadata entities, deleting existing links, and modifying existing links to metadata entities, wherein the new links and modifications to existing links are stored with the personal information landscape.

A.

72. (Amended) A method according to claim 71, wherein substep (i) further comprises representing and storing the entity target with a component identifier, the component identifier identifying an identifiable component of an entity identified by the URI.

73. (Amended) A method according to claim 71, wherein the particular entities searched for are content entities.

74. (Amended) Computer apparatus for maintaining a personal information landscape for a World Wide Web user, where the personal information landscape comprises a set of at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity of a plurality of

metadata entities, the plurality of metadata entities each including at least one link to another metadata entity and a content entity, said apparatus comprising:

first means for representing and storing an entity target of the at least one link as a universal resource identifier (URI);

second means for representing the at least one link as an interface from which the user can navigate through the personal information landscape, using the at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity, and select to play or view content using the at least one link to a content entity; and

third means for modifying the personal information landscape by at least one of adding new links to metadata entities, deleting existing links to metadata entities, and modifying existing links to metadata entities, wherein modifications are stored with the user's personal information landscape.

75. (Amended) Computer apparatus for maintaining a personal information landscape for a World Wide Web user, where the personal information landscape comprises a set of at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity of a plurality of metadata entities, wherein each metadata entity is comprised of at least one link to another metadata entity or to a content entity, said apparatus comprising:

first means for representing and storing an entity target of the at least one link as a universal resource identifier (URI);

second means for representing the at least one link as an interface from which the user can navigate through the personal information landscape, using the at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity, and select to play or view content using the at least one link to a content entity;

third means for enabling the user to search for particular entities by specifying the desirable properties for the particular entities and then performing a matching operation on the desirable properties with properties of entities included in the plurality of metadata entities; and

A1 fourth means for modifying the personal information landscape by at least one of adding new links to metadata entities, deleting existing links, and modifying existing links to metadata entities, wherein modifications to existing links are stored with the personal information landscape.

76. (Amended) Computer apparatus according to claim 74, wherein said apparatus comprises a server to which the user connects.

77. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon for causing a computer to execute a procedure to maintain a personal information landscape for a World Wide Web user, where the personal information landscape comprises a set of at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity of a plurality of

metadata entities, the plurality of metadata entities being comprised of at least one link to another metadata entity and a content entity, the program comprising:

first code for representing and storing a entity target of the at least one link as an universal resource identifier (URI);

second code for representing the at least one link as an interface from which a user can navigate through the personal information landscape, using the at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity, and select to reproduce content using the at least one link to the content entity; and

third code for enabling the user to modify the personal information landscape by at least one of adding new links to metadata entities, deleting existing links, and modifying existing links to metadata entities, wherein modifications to existing links are stored with the user's personal information landscape.

78. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein reproduction of content comprises at least one of playing and viewing the content.

79. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein said first code comprises code for representing and storing the entity target with a component identifier, where the component identifier identifies a component of an entity addressed by the URI.

80. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein the content entity comprises an item of digital signal content, and the item of digital signal content comprises at least one of a digital image item, a digital video item, a digital audio item, an item of electronic text, and an item of electronic hypertext.

81. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein the content entity comprises an item of non-electronically-accessible content, which cannot be viewed or played.

A1
82. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein the plurality of metadata entities comprise XML documents.

83. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 79, wherein the component identifier identifies a node of an XML element tree.

84. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 79, wherein the component identifier comprises an XPointer.

85. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein the interface is implemented using a web browsing application.

86. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 85, wherein functionality used to play or view the content is provided by plug-ins for the web browsing application.

87. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 85, wherein the web browsing application comprises a generic application.

A, 88. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 77, wherein functionality used to play or view content is provided by a plug-in specifically designed for the interface.

89. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon for causing a computer to execute a procedure to maintain a personal information landscape for a World Wide Web user, where the personal information landscape comprises a set of at least one link to a corresponding metadata entity of a plurality of metadata entities, the plurality of metadata entities comprised of at least one link to another metadata entity or to a content entity, the program comprising:

first code for representing and storing an entity target of the at least one link as a universal resource identifier (URI);

second code for representing the at least on link as an interface from which the user can navigate through the personal information landscape, using the at least one

link to a corresponding metadata entity, and select to play or view content using the at least one link to the content entity;

third code for enabling the user to search for particular entities by specifying desired properties for the particular entities and then performing a matching operation on desired properties with properties of entities in the plurality of metadata entities; and

fourth code for enabling the user to modify the personal information landscape by at least one of adding new links to metadata entities, deleting existing links, and modifying existing links to metadata entities, wherein the new links and modifications to existing links are stored with the personal information landscape.

A₁

90. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 89, wherein said first code comprises code for representing and storing the entity target with a component identifier, where the component identifier identifies an identifiable component of an entity identified by the URI.

91. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 89, wherein the particular entities searched for are content entities.

92. (Amended) A method of communicating metadata between users of a multimedia browsing service, the service including a storage unit storing a

table-of-contents of metadata for browsable and selectable items, by a corresponding user of the service, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) extracting, at a first device corresponding to a first user, metadata relating to a selected media item from a table-of-contents of the first user;
- (b) transferring the metadata for the selected media item from the first device to a second device corresponding to a second user; and
- (c) the second device receiving the metadata and informing the multimedia browsing service to update a table-of-contents for the second user in the storage unit with the metadata for the selected media item.

93. (Amended) A method of communicating links to metadata between users of a multimedia browsing service, the service including a storage unit storing a browsable table-of-contents of links to metadata for selectable items for each user of the service, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) extracting, at a first device corresponding to a first user, a link to metadata relating to a selected item from a table-of-contents of the first user;
- (b) transferring the link to metadata for the selected item from the first device to a second device corresponding to a second user; and
- (c) the second device receiving the link to metadata and informing the multimedia browsing service to update a table-of-contents for the second user in the storage unit with the link to metadata for the selected item.

94. (Amended) A method according to claim 92, wherein said transferring comprises at least partial wireless communication between the first device and the second device.

95. (Amended) A method according to claim 92, wherein the selected item is an item of digital audiovisual content.

A₁ 96. (Amended) A method of communicating metadata between a user device of a multimedia browsing system and an external device that is not part of the multimedia browsing system, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) extracting the metadata from a table of contents associated with the user device and repositing with the multimedia browsing system;

(b) associating the extracted metadata with an address of the multimedia browsing system and a logon to the multimedia browsing system, and enveloping the associated metadata and the address in a voucher; and

(c) communicating the voucher from the user device to the further device enabling a user of the external device to access the multimedia browsing system using the logon to gain access from the multimedia browsing system to media content referenced by the metadata.

97. (Amended) A method according to claim 96, wherein the multimedia browsing system comprises a computer server apparatus to which the user device and the external device are each connected.

98. (Amended) A method according to claim 96, wherein the voucher substantiates a right-to-use of the media content for the external device.

A₁ 99. (Amended) A method according to claim 96, wherein the voucher is temporal and expires after a predetermined time period established and commenced upon formation of the voucher.

100. (Amended) A method according to claim 96, wherein a right-to-use of the media content of the user device is transferred to the external device.

101. (Amended) A method according to claim 96, wherein a right-to-use of the media content of the external device defaults to a single use.

102. (Amended) A method according to claim 96, wherein a right-to-use of the media content of the external device is determined using the metadata.

103. (Amended) A method according to claim 102, wherein determination of the right-to-use is performed by the multimedia browsing server using the metadata.

104. (Amended) A method according to claim 102, wherein determination of the right-to-use is performed by a multimedia browsing server associated with the media content.

A1 105. (Amended) A multimedia device comprising:

means for operatively connecting said multimedia device to a multimedia browsing service, the browsing service including a storage unit storing a table-of-contents including at least one of metadata and links to metadata browsable and selectable items by a user of the device and the browsing service;

means for extracting one of metadata and a link to metadata relating to a selected media item from a table-of-contents of a user; and

means for transferring the extracted metadata or link to metadata for the selected item from the device to another device corresponding to another user.

106. (Amended) A multimedia device according to claim 105, wherein said means for transferring comprises means for wireless communication between at least one of the browsing service and the other device.

107. (Amended) A multimedia device according to claim 105, wherein the selected item is an item of digital audiovisual content and said multimedia device comprises an audiovisual reproduction unit.

108. (Amended) A multimedia device according to claim 105, wherein the other device operatively corresponds to another multimedia device.

109. (Amended) A multimedia device comprising:

means for receiving at least one of metadata and a link to metadata for a media item from a first device corresponding to a first user;

means for operatively connecting said multimedia device to a multimedia browsing service, the browsing service including a storage unit storing a table-of-contents including at least one of metadata and links to metadata for items browsable and selectable by a user of said multimedia device and the browsing service; and

means for updating metadata or a link to metadata relating to a media item in a table-of-contents of the user.

110. (Amended) A device according to claim 109, wherein said means for receiving comprise means for wireless communication between the browsing service and another device.

111. (Amended) A device according to claim 109, wherein a selected item is an item of digital audiovisual content and said multimedia device comprises an audiovisual reproduction unit.

112. (Amended) A multimedia device comprising:

means for extracting metadata from a table of contents associated with a user of said multimedia device and repositing with a multimedia browsing system to which said multimedia device is operatively connectable;

means for associating the extracted metadata with an address of the multimedia browsing system and a logon to the multimedia browsing system, and then enveloping the associated metadata and the address in a voucher; and

means for communicating the voucher from said multimedia device to another device to enable a user of the other device to access to the multimedia browsing system using the logon, and to access media content referenced by the metadata from the multimedia browsing system.

113. (Amended) A device according to claim 112, wherein the voucher comprises components relating to at least one of:

(a) a time period by which the media content can be accessed by the other device;

(b) a quality of service by which the media content can be reproduced by the other device; and

(c) a number of instances by which the media content can be reproduced by the other device.

114. (Amended) A device according to claim 113, wherein the components are established from the extracted metadata.

A1 115. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon for causing a computerized device to execute a procedure to communicate metadata between users of a multimedia browsing service, the program comprising:

code for operatively connecting the computerized device to the multimedia browsing service, the browsing service including a storage unit storing a table-of-contents that includes at least one of metadata and links to metadata for items able to be browsed and selected by a user of the computerized device and the browsing service;

code for extracting metadata or a link to metadata related to a selected item from a table-of-contents of a user; and

code for transferring the extracted metadata or the extracted link to metadata for the selected item from the computerized device to another device corresponding to another user.

116. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon for causing a computerized device to execute a procedure to communicate metadata between users of a multimedia browsing service, the program comprising:

code for receiving least one of metadata and a link to metadata for a media item from a first device corresponding to a first user;

code for operatively connecting the computerized device to the multimedia browsing service, the browsing service including a storage unit storing a table-of-contents including at least one of metadata and links to metadata for items able to be browsed and selected by a user of the computerized device and the browsing service; and

code for updating metadata or a link to metadata relating to the media item to a table-of-contents of a user.

117. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon to cause a computerized device to execute a procedure to communicate metadata between users of a multimedia browsing service, the program comprising:

code for extracting metadata from a table of contents associated with a user of the computerized device and repositing with a media browsing system to which the computerized device is operatively connectable;

code for associating the extracted metadata with an address of the media browsing system and a logon to the system and then enveloping the associated metadata and the address in a voucher; and

code for communicating the voucher from the computerized device to another device to enable a user of the other device to access the media browsing system using the logon and to access to media content referenced by the metadata from the media browsing system.

118. (Amended) A method of transferring a media session from a first device to a second device, said method comprising the steps of:

A (a) establishing a media session sourced via a media browsing server upon the first device;

(b) actuating a control on the first device to:

(i) transfer to the second device details of the media session;

(ii) receive from the second device an identification thereof known to the media browsing server; and

(iii) transfer the received identification of the second device to the media browsing server; and

(c) the media browsing server terminating an output of the media session to the first device and directing the output of the media session to the second device.

119. (Amended) A method according to claim 118, wherein step (c) comprises modifying a quality of service of the media session dependent upon reproduction attributes of the second device.

120. (Amended) A method according to claim 119, wherein the modifying alters a form of communication between the first device and the second device.

121. (Amended) A method according to claim 118, wherein a quality of reproduction of the media session is limited by reproduction attributes of the second device to be no better than those of the first device.

A₁

122. (Amended) A method according to claim 119, wherein, when the second device offers a higher quality of reproduction of the media session than the first device, step (c) comprises a commercial transaction to enable the modifying.

123. (Amended) A method according to claim 119, wherein the media session was originated at a selected quality of service and reproduction of the media session on each device is performed at a maximum quality of service afforded by that corresponding device and no reproduction is better than the selected quality of service.

124. (Amended) A method according to claim 118, wherein the devices are selected from a group consisting of: a desktop computer, a portable computer, a mobile telephone, and a mobile sound reproduction apparatus.

125. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon to cause a first computerized device to execute a procedure to transfer a media session from a first device to a second device, the program comprising:

code for establishing a media session utilizing the first device and sourced via a media browsing server;

code for transferring to the second device details of the media session;

A1 code for receiving from second device an identification of the second device known to the media browsing server; and

code for transferring the received identification for the second device to the media browsing server.

126. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon for causing a computerized device to execute a procedure to receive a media session from a second device, the program comprising:

code for receiving from the second device details of a media session occurring on the second device;

code for transferring to the second device an identification of the computerized device known to a media browsing server from which the media session is sourced; and

code for establishing the media session upon the computerized device and sourced via the media browsing server.

127. (Amended) A computer-readable medium with a program recorded thereon to cause a computerized media browsing server to execute a procedure to transfer a media session from a first device to a second device, the program comprising:

code for establishing a media session upon the first device sourced via the media browsing server;

code for receiving from the first device an identification of the second device known to the media browsing server; and

A₁ code for transferring the media session from the first device to the second device.

128. (Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 127, wherein said code for transferring comprises code for establishing a media session upon the second device and code for terminating the media session upon the first device.

129. (Amended) A multimedia reproduction device comprising:

means for establishing a media session upon said device and sourced via a media browsing server;

means for transferring to another device details of the media session;

means for receiving from the other device an identification of the other device known to the media browsing server; and

means for transferring the received identification of the other device to the media browsing server.

130. (Amended) A multimedia reproduction device comprising:

means for receiving from another device details of a media session occurring on the other device and sourced via a media browsing server;

A, means for transferring to the other device an identification of said the multimedia reproduction device known to the media browsing server; and

means for establishing a media session upon said multimedia reproduction device and sourced via the media browsing server.

131. (Amended) A media browsing server comprising:

means for establishing a media session upon a first multimedia reproduction device and sourced via said media browsing server;

means for receiving from a first device an identification of a second multimedia reproduction device known to said media browsing server; and

means for transferring the media session from the first device to a second device.